

Record

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MISSISSIPPI
BAPTISTS

Evangelism Conference draws crowd

By Tony Martin
Associate Editor

The 2009 Mississippi Baptist State Evangelism Conference kicked off on the evening of Jan. 18 at First Church, Clinton, drawing a large crowd to hear Richard Blackaby, president of Blackaby Ministries, preach from Deuteronomy, chapter 30.

"The Israelites were going through the motions, but they were not having an impact on the world," he said.

The Jan. 19 morning session began with praise and worship led by Mike Harland, director of worship at LifeWay Christian Resources in Nashville and former minister of music at Broadmoor Church, Madison, and Crossgates Church, Brandon.

Blackaby brought the first of two morning messages. Speaking from John 4, Blackaby dealt with Jesus' encounter with the woman at the well.

"Jesus chose to spend time with the most immoral woman in the place," Blackaby said. "The transformation that happened when Jesus encounters her was amazing, and crowds were attracted because this woman acted as a catalyst."

Michael Catt, pastor of Sherwood Church in Albany, Ga., and a native of Pascagoula, spoke on the success of the Christian-themed films, *Facing the Giants* and *Fireproof*, which Sherwood Church produced.

He said that there is evidence that over 10,000 people have come to Christ through the movies. He told of one man who stated that he had seen *Facing the Giants* in Arabic on television in Beirut.

"We live in a post-Christian culture," said Catt. "People come to Christ quicker in a secular venue than they might in the church." Speaking from Matthew 14, Catt said, "Some of your greatest ministry will come out of your darkest times. Your strength is no help to God. Your weakness is no hindrance to God."



MAKING A POINT — Frank Cox, pastor of 4,600-member North Metro Church in Atlanta, preaches Jan. 19 at the 2009 Mississippi Baptist State Evangelism Conference at First Church, Clinton. (Photo by William H. Perkins Jr.)

After lunch, three breakout sessions were offered. Ed Stetzer, president of LifeWay Research in Nashville and LifeWay missiologist in residence, presented *Comeback Churches*. Frank Cox, senior pastor of 4,600-member North Metro Church in Atlanta, offered *Evangelistic Invitations*. Forrest Sheffield, senior pastor of Harrisburg Church, Tupelo, titled his session *Revival Preparation*.

Stetzer began the afternoon session using Matthew 16:13 and following, dealing with Peter's confession of Christ at Caesarea Philippi. Stetzer pointed out that statistics suggested that economical decline and church growth are counter-cyclical, in that growth sometimes takes place when the economy is struggling.

Don Wilton, pastor of First Church, Spartanburg, S.C., shared from Galatians 5. "Evangelism is about encountering God," said Wilton. "Evangelism is where two worlds collide — God and man."

Dinner was provided at Anderson Hall on the Mississippi College (MC) campus, compliments of MC and the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board (MBCB). Jim Futral, MBCB executive director-treasurer, on the disciples' request to "teach us to pray."

Cox preached in the Jan. 19 evening session, using Galatians 2:20 as his text. "God put us here to make a difference in the world in which we live," said Cox.

Wilton closed out the Jan. 19 evening session by preaching from 2 Timothy 1:6. "The dormancy of the Christian community is alarming," Wilton stated. "If we don't stir up the gifts within us, we are sentenced to a life of timidity."

The Evangelism Conference was followed on the morning of Jan. 20 by the State Senior Adult Evangelism Rally at Morrison Heights Church, Clinton. Glen Shows, consultant in the MBCB Discipleship and Family Ministry Department said the rally registered 418 from 43 churches, representing 35 towns.

First Church, Jackson, hosts IMB Missions Forum

JACKSON, Ms. (Special) — First Church, Jackson, will host the International Mission Board (IMB) 2009 Missions Forum on Feb. 9-11 on the church's main campus in downtown Jackson.

"Missions Forum is a conference for mission leaders. Your church's involvement in missions can be greatly enhanced by having people from your congregation in this three-day meeting," said Rob Sugg, deployment minister at First Church, Jackson, and a former IMB missionary.

The conference is held annually and has been in Florida, Texas, Virginia, and Tennessee. "We are privileged to have it right here in Mississippi," Sugg said. Missions Forum speakers will include:

- Jim Slack, consultant analyst for the IMB Global Research Department.
- David Clippard, managing director of the IMB Church Services Group.
- Kent Humphries, former IMB trustee, business leader, and mission advocate from Oklahoma City.
- Stan Buckley, pastor of First Church, Jackson.

Registration begins at 1 p.m. on Feb. 9 in Fellowship Hall West. At 2 p.m., there will be a roundtable discussion for those who have previously attended Missions Forum. At 4 p.m., there will be a brief overview of Missions Forum for those who have not previously attended.

A total of 24 breakout sessions will be available under the headings of:

- Impact the World through Your Church.
- Cast the Vision for Missions.
- Empower Missions in Your Church.
- Be Strategic.
- Resolve the Nitty Gritty Issues.
- Local Ministry Models.

"The conference is open to pastors, staff members, and lay people who have a heart for missions," Sugg said.

Cost is \$70 per person and includes Monday evening dinner, Tuesday lunch, Wednesday lunch, refreshments, and materials. Registration deadline is Feb. 4. For more information, contact Rob or Nan Sugg at (601) 949-1939. E-mail: rsugg@fbcj.org. Online registration: www.missionsforum.fbcj.org.

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A long four years

As expected, one of the first actions of newly-inaugurated U.S. President Barack Obama was to begin the process of dismantling federal restrictions on abortion that had been put in place by his predecessor, pro-life President George W. Bush. He began the process by rescinding the Bush executive order known as the Mexico City Policy.

The Mexico City Policy mandated that organizations must attest they would "neither perform nor actively promote abortion as a method of family planning in other nations," before receiving federal funds. The idea was simple enough — Americans should not be going abroad with taxpayer money to promote baby killing as a birth control method and the answer to unintended pregnancies.

It's one thing to support the killing of 50 million babies in this country since the U.S. Supreme Court in 1973 struck down all abortion restrictions during all nine months of pregnancy. That's awful enough, but pro-lifers rightly believe the export of this American

Holocaust around the world will only compound our responsibility for the shedding of innocent blood (Jeremiah 22:16-17).

No matter. Each one of us will now be paying for abortions around the world, whether we like it or not. Abortionists were predictably elated at the new flood of federal funds coming their way.

"With the stroke of a pen, President Obama has lifted the stranglehold on women's health across the globe," crowed Cecile Richards, president of Planned Parenthood Federation of America — the leading abortion provider in the U.S. and the annual recipient of hundreds of millions of dollars of federal funds.

"His repeal of the global gag rule ends eight long years of policies that have blocked access to basic health care for women worldwide. No longer will health care providers be forced to choose between receiving family planning funding and restricting the health care services they provide to women."

Richards, like all abortionists, has to carefully couch her words to avoid the truth about abortion. Thus, she must use soothing phrases like "access to basic health care," and "family planning funding," when she is actually talking about abortion and the deliberate taking of human life.

The President's newly-approved U.S. Secretary of State, who will oversee the international distribution of those abortion funds, happens to be one of the most rabid living supporters of abortion. Her appointment was no accident — Hillary Rodham Clinton will no doubt ensure every penny is used for its intended, bloody purpose.

"President Obama was the most radically pro-choice candidate of a major party in American history and pledged to Planned Parenthood that he would never back down on this issue," said Richard Land, president of the Ethics and

Religious Liberty Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention in Nashville.

"Unfortunately, his executive order overturning the Mexico City Policy may just be the first step in his fulfillment of that campaign pledge to his radical pro-abortion supporters."

It is indeed just the first step. Obama has also pledged to sign the so-called Freedom of Choice Act (there's that soothing language again), if the U.S. Congress passes it and sends it to his desk. The Freedom of Choice Act would write into federal law the right to an abortion, in case a future U.S. Supreme Court should overturn *Roe v. Wade*, the 1973 ruling that legalized all types of abortion throughout all nine months of pregnancy.

The Freedom of Choice Act would also prohibit steps the states have taken to regulate abortion, such as parental notification laws and bans on partial birth abortion in which a fully-formed baby is delivered and then killed by a scissors jab into the brain.

In addition, Obama is expected to rescind other Bush executive orders and allow taxpayer funding of embryonic stem cell research, which destroys nascent human life in order to acquire the stem cells. A Bush executive order withholding funds from the United Nations Population Fund, because of that organization's support for forced abortions and involuntary sterilizations, is also expected to fall.

It's going to be a long four years — and possibly eight years. Are we ready to stand up and be counted in these crucial battles? Time will tell.

GUEST OPINION:

R-rated films rule Oscars

By Phil Boatwright
Kansas City, Kansas

Though computer-aided ingenuity plays an important role in the success of bringing the book to cinematic life, the filmmakers see to it that special effects contribute to the drama, rather than overshadow it. Despite the film's length, almost no one at the screening left for concessions or bathroom breaks. They were hooked by something they seldom see — storytelling that balances epic adventure with deeply personal narrative.

• *Frost/Nixon* (rated R for language and graphic depictions of the Vietnam War) focuses entirely on President Richard Nixon's role in the Watergate scandal, not his accomplishments. Most disturbing, however, is that the film presents as fact things that have not been authenticated. For example, did the eccentric Nixon's mental state really disintegrate as the interviews progressed?

• In *Milk* (rated R for language, sexual content, and

brief violence) director Gus Van Sant chronicles the life of Harvey Milk, the first openly homosexual man to gain political power in San Francisco. After serving on the city's Board of Supervisors and making huge strides for the homosexual community, Milk and Mayor George Moscone were assassinated by another board member, Dan White.

Milk is involved storytelling, accompanied by intense acting and a strong visceral impact, but it also is heavy-handed, produced with a fierce humanitarian, political design. While it is "here to recruit you," as Harvey Milk states several times in the film, ultimately the film serves to further divide.

• *The Reader* (rated R for sexuality and nudity) is the story of a chance meeting that leads a 16-year-old boy into a sexual liaison with an older woman, played by Kate Winslet. One day the boy shows up to further his coming-of-age lessons, only to find

the woman gone. The film then follows this young man through his life, showing the effect the "affaire d'amour" had on him. He discovers the woman is on trial for Nazi war crimes and is torn between her despicable deeds and the adoration he feels for her.

Once you get past the first hour of this film, it becomes an astute character study but that first hour is so explicit in its sexuality that it's difficult to distinguish The Reader from pornography. There's a great deal of nudity and graphic sexual activity, which I'm sure the filmmakers would argue for in order to point out the effect this relationship was having on the young man.

I kept thinking, what if this was an older man enticing a fifteen-year-old girl?

• *Slumdog Millionaire* (rated R for violence, disturbing images, and language) concerns an 18-year-old orphan from the slums of Mumbai, India, who is about to win a staggering 20 million rupees on India's version of Who Wants To Be A Millionaire? The film opens with the lead character being tortured by a nefarious group who think he cheated on the show. Between beatings and electric shocks, he explains how he knew the answers. Alas, this potent morality tale is justly rated R.

Boatwright reviews films for previewonline.org and is a regular columnist for Baptist Press.

Missionaries face Gambia prison sentences

BANJUL, Gambia (BP) — A British missionary couple in Gambia have been sentenced to a year in prison at hard labor for sending e-mails critical of Gambian dictator Yahya Jammeh.

David Fulton, 60, and his wife Fiona, 47, pled guilty to the charges after their arrest in late November because their lawyer told them it might result in a lighter sentence, but a judge gave them the maximum sentence, saying he intended to send a message to those who "spread hatred against the government."

In addition to the prison sentences, the couple was fined the equivalent of about \$9,500 each.

The couple apparently sent e-mails to friends and church contacts in Britain that not only discussed their ministry but also described the state of affairs in Gambia and called Jammeh "a madman," according to a report by The Times newspaper of London. A Gambian person in England connected to the Fulton's home church sent copies of the e-mails to Gambian authorities.

Jammeh has ruled Gambia since he led a coup in 1994. The country has been criticized for human rights abuses and press censorship and Jammeh has been ridiculed for claiming to have discovered a banana-based cure for AIDS, according to the British newspaper The Independent.

The Fultons have lived in Gambia for 10 years, according to International Christian Concern (www.persecution.org), a human rights organization that helps persecuted Christians around the world. David Fulton conducted evangelistic efforts in villages accessible only by boat and served as a chaplain with the Gambian army. Fiona Fulton trained prison chaplains, cared for terminally ill people, and visited hospitalized women.

The Fultons have been held in the notorious Mile Two prison since they were sentenced Dec. 30, according to The Independent. Gambian authorities have denied them visitors since their incarceration, in spite of the fact that they both have health problems, according to ICC.

After their conviction, the couple wrote a letter to Jammeh, pleading for clemency. "We certainly had no intention to bring into hatred or contempt or to excite disaffection against the president or the government of the Gambia," they wrote. "We humbly apologise totally, unreservedly and without exception for anything and everything that we have said that has caused offence and we fully and publicly withdraw any such remarks. We apologise to the Security Services for the trouble we have caused them."

Jonathan Racho, ICC's regional manager for Africa, said his organization was asking the gov-

ernment to release the Fultons, "considering their relentless effort to help the poor and the marginalized section of the society in the country and considering the poor state of their health."

The organization also asked Christians worldwide to pray for the couple. "Please pray for the safe release of David and Fiona and for their health," Racho said. "Pray that God will give them comfort and courage as they go through this difficult time."

Individuals who want to intercede with Gambian authorities on the Fultons' behalf may contact the country's embassy in the United States by calling (202) 785-1399 or e-mailing info@gambiaembassy.us.

In another part of the world, Burmese authorities have increased restrictions on Christian activity in the capital city of Rangoon and surrounding areas, including the closure of several churches, Compass Direct News reported Jan. 21.

Orders issued on Jan. 5 already had forced many Christians meeting in residential homes or apartments to cease gathering for worship. The following week, officials ordered several major Rangoon churches, including Wather Hope Church, Emmanuel Church, and the Assemblies of God Church, to cease holding services. Authorities also continued enforcing the Jan. 5 ban on meetings held in unauthorized facilities.

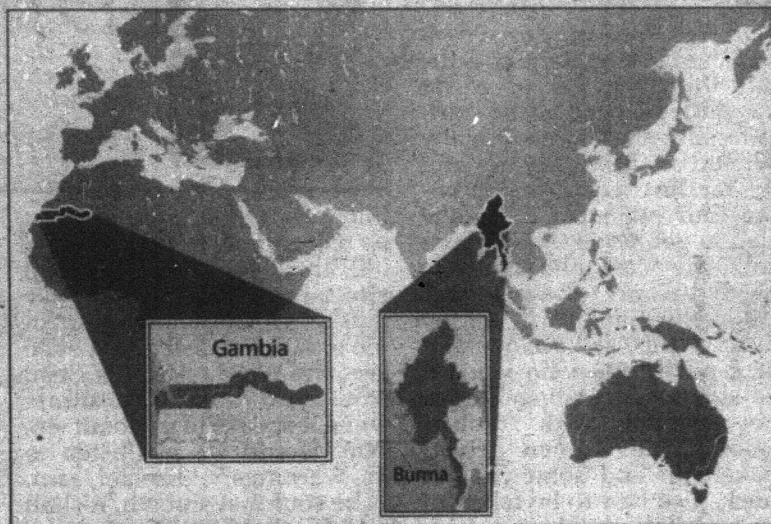
A military dictatorship has ruled Burma since 1962. Following the takeover, the government renamed Burma as the Union of Myanmar and the capital city as Yangon, but many news agencies and government bodies continue to use the original names.

Burmese authorities stopped issuing permits for land purchase or the construction of new churches in the late 1990s, leading many Burmese Christians to conduct services in rented apartments or office buildings, according to the Burmese news agency Mizzima.

The Kyauktada Township Peace and Development Council on Jan. 5 invited pastors from more than 100 Rangoon churches to a meeting where they were told to sign documents pledging to cease operation of their churches. About 50 pastors attended, Mizzima reported.

The documents threatened punishment, including jail terms and the sealing of church facilities, for pastors who refused to obey the closure orders.

Another local online news source, the Democratic Voice of Burma, claimed officials from the Ministry of Religious Affairs had summoned the owners of buildings where churches met and ordered them not to rent their proper-



ties to religious groups.

Some local Christians and international observers say the crackdown is related to Christian involvement in relief efforts for the victims of Cyclone Nargis, which hit Burma in May 2008.

Despite widespread devastation and loss of life, Burma's restrictive government initially banned foreign aid but finally accepted it on condition that Burmese officials would distribute it. Christians, however, had responded immediately to the crisis, gathering relief supplies and transporting them to the Irrawaddy Delta region.

Police or army officials stopped some groups but many were allowed to proceed. At least one such group told Compass that officials likely feared the conversion of Buddhists who accepted aid from Christians.

Burma's military junta promotes Buddhism at the expense of other minority religions, according to Hudson Institute's 2008 Religious Freedom in the World analysis. The country's population is 82% Buddhist, nine percent Christian and four percent Muslim, with traditional ethnic, Chinese, and Hindu religions accounting for the rest.

Burma ranks high on lists of religious and human rights violators at several watch organizations, including the U.S. State Department, Human Rights Watch, Freedom House, and Open Doors.

Documents declaring the government's intention to

"stamp out" Christianity have circulated for some time. One human rights organization, Christian Solidarity Worldwide, drew attention to one such document in a 2007 report titled, Carrying the Cross: The military regime's campaign of restriction, discrimination and persecution against Christians in Burma.

The report summarized a 17-point document allegedly produced by an organization affiliated with the Ministry of Religious Affairs titled, Program to Destroy the Christian Religion in Burma. The first point in this document declared, "There shall be no home where the Christian religion is practiced."

Burmese generals rejected 1988 elections showing the opposing National League for Democracy clearly in the majority. The generals used military force to cement their power throughout Burma. A similar show of force met hundreds of Buddhist monks who initiated mass anti-government protest rallies on the streets of Rangoon in September 2007.

While almost all Burmese citizens suffer under the regime, Christians often are singled out for specific attack or repression because of their perceived connections with the West.

Reports from various mission groups suggest Christianity is flourishing under the regime, but believers must be creative with their worship — particularly in rural areas.

Looking back

10 years ago

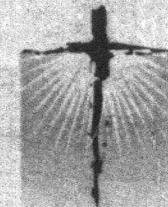
Mississippi native Charles L. (Chuck) Quarles and Julie C. Chesser Quarles are among 28 people appointed by the International Mission Board Jan. 26 during a service at First Church, Houston, Tex.

20 years ago

A faulty heater in the nursery results in the burning of First Church, Louise. "We've lost a building but we haven't lost a church," says John Sandlin, trustee. Estimated cost of rebuilding is \$200,000. Maynard Hall is interim pastor.

30 years ago

The Mississippi Baptist Convention Board purchases from the U.S. government the former U.S. Maritime Academy property at Henderson Point, just past the western end of Pass Christian on the Gulf Coast, according to Chester L. Quarles, executive secretary-treasurer of the Board.



MISSISSIPPI
BAPTISTS

THE SECOND FRONT PAGE

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NO. 5



YOU CAN RESPOND
RIGHT NOW!

Simply share the following prayer with God in your own words:

1. Lord, I admit that I need you. (I have sinned.)

2. I want forgiveness for my sins and freedom from eternal death. (I repent.)

3. I believe Jesus died and rose from the grave to forgive my sins and to restore my relationship with you. (I believe in Jesus.)

4. By faith, I invite Jesus Christ into my life. From this time on, I want to live in a loving relationship with Him. (I receive Christ as my Savior and Lord.)

"But as many as received him, to them he gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in his name." (John 1:12)

If you make a decision for Jesus Christ today, contact a local Baptist church for spiritual guidance.

BIBLIOCIPHER

By Charles Marx, 1932 - 2004
© 2005

RCM FOYWY YRGM
WCXV BGZ, PVIOY
BRUO BVEOY, RCM
LGSMY VP XBO RGS
BRUO COYXY; LWX XBO
YVC VP ZRC BRXB CVX
KBOSO XV ERT BGY
BORM.

EDWO CGCO: PGPXT-
OGCBX

Clue: P=F

Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: Luke Five: Thirty-One

A PASSING GRADE!

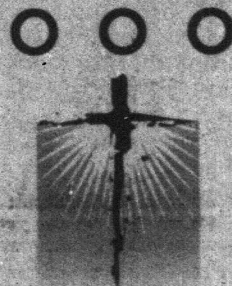
Did you hear about the woman who was taking her driver's test? Everything went well until she drove back into the parking area and the only thing left for her to do was park the car. As she started to park she unintentionally stepped on the accelerator and the car lurched forward, hitting four other cars! As she tried to get her car under control, she careened off the fourth car, only to bounce over and hit two more cars. In the midst of this, she accidentally hit a pedestrian who was on the sidewalk, sending him to the hospital with broken bones. The woman driver, shaken up and somewhat in shock, also had to be taken to the hospital. As she was riding with her instructor on the way to the hospital, she asked, "Did I pass?"

The news story said that the instructor was also being treated for shock.

As strange and bizarre as that all may sound, it was an actual news story and supposedly, the woman was sincere in asking if she had passed. When you take a driving test, damage your own car, hit six other cars, and put one pedestrian in the hospital, it is unlikely you could expect to receive a passing grade. I suppose that is the same kind of thinking you see in the person who has smoked cigarettes for 50 years and then makes the statement, "I don't understand why God would give me lung cancer," or, the 40-year drinker who is upset because God has allowed him to get cirrhosis of the liver, or those of us who eat every sweet calorie within two miles of us and then wonder why diabetes sets in.

Our reckless, and at times, thoughtless lifestyle, as well as our sins, have conse-

quences. Oftentimes, without us recognizing it, they overlap but they still have harmful affects. Preachers may not say it as much, and although people today may listen to it even less, the Word of God is clear, true, and totally accurate when it speaks to us about sin. Why would we not listen to its warnings? Ezekiel said, "The soul that sinneth, it shall die" (Ezek. 18:20). Paul wrote, "The wages of sin is death" (Rom. 6:23). James stated it in a different way when he said, "Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin; and sin, when it is finished, brings forth death" (James 1:15). Yet, we go on, doing as we please, ignoring what would please God, crashing our lives, and then being shocked at the mess we have made.



MISSISSIPPI
BAPTISTS

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Jackson, MS 39205



Directions

Jim Futral, executive director-treasurer
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

As strange as it sounds, that is every one of us. We have all stepped on the accelerator when our foot should have been the brake! We have all lost control at some point and run off the road or into somebody! We have all crashed! Simply and profoundly stated, "We have all sinned and come short of the glory of God."

So, is there any hope? Yes, absolutely! Let the word go out with ripples of affirmation that God has reached down to us in love and what we could not do for ourselves, He has done for us in Jesus. Where

there was no hope, He has lifted our eyes. When life ended in a crash, damaged every one around us, and we knew we did not pass but wished there was some way of escape, God said, "Come unto me, all you that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (Matt. 11:28).

His grace is sufficient! His power is able! His love is never failing!

The author can be contacted at jfutral@mbcb.org.

CORRECTION

In the January 22, 2009 issue of The Baptist Record, the photographs of Jamie Leach, pastor of Emmanuel Church, Newton Association, and Matt Hess, pastor, Carey Chapel Church, Red Bank, were inadvertently reversed. The Record regrets the error.

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Registration & Snacks: Friday
Evening, February 27th 5:30-7:00pm
Concert: 7:00pm - 9:00pm

Registration & Breakfast:
Saturday, February 28th 7:00-9:00am
Concert: 9:00am - 11:00am
Conclude: 11:00am

MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP MINISTRY

It's that time of year.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS FOR THE
2009-2010 ACADEMIC YEAR WILL BE AVAIL-
ABLE ON OUR WEBSITE BEGINNING
JANUARY 1, 2009.

VISIT
www.msbbaptistfoundation.org
TO COMPLETE YOUR APPLICATION

The Mississippi Baptist Foundation's Scholarship Ministry provides needs-based supplemental financial assistance to Mississippi students who are pursuing a degree at a Mississippi Baptist college or a Southern Baptist seminary. For more information about the MBF Scholarship Ministry, please visit our website, www.msbbaptistfoundation.org. Scholarship applications for the 2009-2010 academic year will be available on our website beginning January 1, 2009. Completed applications must be received in the MBF office by April 30.



What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light; and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim upon the

HOUSE TOPS

Matthew 10:27 NAS

January 29, 2009

HouseTops is a Baptist Record supplement produced by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Communication Services.

Pray this day for...

January 30 – February 12, 2009

Prayer Ministry Office • P.O. Box 530 • Jackson, MS 39205-0530 • Phone 601-292-3304 • Mississippi PrayerLine 1-800-787-7729 (PRAY)

"... You are right in saying that God is one and there is no other but him. To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and with all your strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself is more important than all burnt offerings and sacrifices."

(Mark 12:32b-33)

True Love Waits (D&FM Emphasis)
Frontier Association in Buffalo, NY, led by Michael Flannery, needs prayer for several ministry needs: prayer partners, cluster churches and financial support for two new church plants. Mississippi Baptists can be a part of meeting these needs. Pray for these church planting needs in Buffalo.

Jim Mayes is associational missions director for the Buckeye Central-Erie Baptist Association. Pray for this association to find prayer partners, volunteers, and an extended short-term couple to assist Jim in relating to the churches and providing office assistance. Pray that Mississippi Baptists might be a part of meeting these needs.

Pray for a mission team made up of several members of Tri-County Baptist Association as they travel, Feb. 3-15, to visit and learn about an unreached people group in Southeast Asia. Pray that God will give this team a vision of how they work and minister among these people.

Pray for: (1) Baptist Building At Home Days 4th - 6th; (2) Southside Life Station of Toledo, Ohio and its leader Jeff Sheldon. This ministry focuses on the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of people in their Jerusalem. Pray that God will call out more volunteers to work in this ministry.

(1) Mississippi Baptist Church Music Conference, 5th-6th CMI; (2) Pray for the North Central Baptist Association of Toledo, Ohio, led by Steve Long. Pray for Mississippi Baptist churches to aid in ongoing church planting efforts within the association through prayer, volunteers and resources.

Pray for Cicero Baptist Church in Cicero, NY. Karl Novak, church planter pastor there, has seen the church grow to being ready to purchase a facility. The church believes it has found the property that God has for them, but the bank is being difficult. Pray for God's strength for a huge push forward to get the property and really impact Cicero for Christ.

Pray for David Williams and the Finger Lakes Association of Rochester, NY. This association is seeking partners from Mississippi Baptist churches to aid in ongoing church planting efforts within the association. Pray that Mississippi Baptist Churches will answer the call to assist this association through prayer, volunteers and resources.

David Waits is a Mississippi pastor now serving in Grande Prairie, Alberta, Canada at Ivy Lakes Baptist Church. David and his family have been serving in Canada, for three years. Please pray for their ministry there and for more opportunities to share the love of Christ in this Canadian town.

Racial Reconciliation Sunday (CAC Emphasis)
The North Central Baptist Association of Toledo has a jail and prison reentry ministry called Disciple House led by John Gattell. Pray for this ministry and that God will provide volunteers who will assist with administrative needs, mentoring and teaching of job skills.

Focus on Missions through IMMu (IMMu Emphasis)
Pray for a team led by Friendship BC in Brookhaven as they travel to the country of Bolivia. There, they will be involved in efforts relating to church planting. Pray for safe travel as well as the ministry they will be taking part in, Feb. 11-18.

Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, a Southern Baptist seminary in Kansas City, KS. Doyle Pennington has requested help from Mississippi Baptists to volunteer to do much needed maintenance and up keep on the campus. Pray for this project and for the right kind of volunteers to be willing to go and help this seminary campus.

FBC, Woodville, led by the student pastor of First Baptist Church, Petal, will take part in a mission journey to Southeast Asia. They will be exploring and learning about an unreached people group and discovering ways they can partner in the ministry that has begun among this people group.

Several Mississippi Baptist groups are praying for the Mappila people group in Kerala, India. This group is the oldest Muslim community in India. Ask God: (1) to use the few Mappila believers to share Christ with their own people, (2) to call people who are willing to go to India and share Christ with the Mappila, (3) to open hearts.

NEW!!! Prayer Requests include Mississippi Baptist Missions projects!

CHURCH LIBRARY MINISTRY Retreat

March 19-21, 2009

GARAYWA

Camp and Conference Center, Clinton

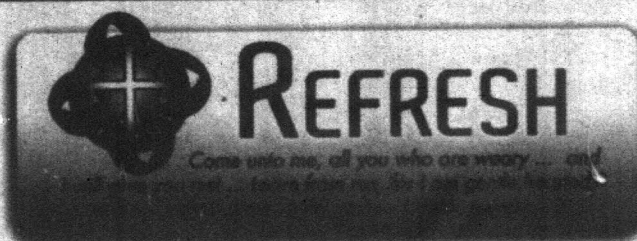
Worship Music Leader
Jim Worthing



Worship Speaker
Jim Futral

REGISTRATION
with the fee in advance is necessary in order to make room assignments and prepare adequately for meals and materials. The deadline for registration is **March 6**. Registration forms will be mailed soon.

CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION
Communication Services
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board
Phone: 1-800-748-1651 (Miss. only)
601-292-3378 (locally)
Fax: 601-714-7412
E-mail: irichardson@mbcb.org or jchen@mbcb.org



FOCUSING ON KINGDOM ESSENTIALS

A conference for congregational leaders seeking spiritual strength and refreshment so that they may serve more effectively in the Kingdom of Christ.

CONFERENCE HEADLINERS

Don Wilton - Keynote Speaker
T.W. Hunt - Spiritual Growth for Leaders
Tony Merida - Sunday Sermon Preparation
Lavon Gray - Worship: Then, Now and Forever
Tommy King - Balancing Bivocational Ministry and Lifestyle

May 30, 2009

9 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Temple BC
Hattiesburg

Missions Extravaganza for Preschoolers and Children

Older preschoolers and 1st - 6th grade children who are coming with their parents are invited to participate in a Missions Extravaganza. Child care will also be provided for younger preschoolers by the Preschool Ministry Department at Temple BC. For more info, contact Robin Keels, MS wMu, 601-292-3322 or rkeels@mbcb.org.

For more information, contact Laura Marler in Mission Strategy at the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, 800-748-1651, ext. 231, 601-292-323, or E-mail: lmarler@mbcb.org.

ADDITIONAL	PROGRAM	OTHER	TOTAL
ASSOCIATION	3,000.00	3,000.00	
CALVERT	2,796.02	4,064.52	6,860.54
CLIFF TEMPLE	26,305.31	5,053.75	31,359.06
DANFORD	1,511.80	2,544.00	4,055.80
HICK MANOR	121,627.18	116,456.04	238,083.22
HIGHLAND	31,559.22	19,988.99	51,548.21
IMMANUEL	11,578.19	9,074.00	20,652.19
MORCHAMTOWN	27,753.52	22,880.61	50,634.13
NEW CROSS	1,000.00	38.50	1,038.50
PARKWAY	67,545.85	37,458.05	105,003.90
SPRINGFIELD	6,249.60	287.40	6,537.00
STANTON	10,075.66	15,025.46	25,101.12
WASHINGTON	9,625.41	9,625.41	19,250.82
TOTAL	325,002.18	242,161.34	567,163.52

ALCOHOL			
ANTIOCH	6,444.56	10,081.18	16,527.74
BETHLEHEM	3,751.09	6,269.21	10,020.30
MUSKOGEE	710.91	2,422.12	3,133.03
CALVARY	2,430.60	2,422.12	4,852.72
COUNTY LINE	800.00	6,915.92	8,115.92
DANVILLE	3,168.60	3,178.82	6,347.42
EAST CORKIN	2,249.43	6,461.07	13,710.44
FR. PETERSVILLE	278,819.67	307,748.70	340,614.37
FR. PETERSVILLE	11,043.61	11,971.04	23,024.65
GLANDALE	6,751.49	6,838.34	13,589.83
HINKLE	11,522.14	24,522.14	36,044.28
HOLLY	2,568.47	4,012.12	7,580.59
KENICHO	1,470.14	1,930.14	3,400.28
KENDRICK	122.31	425.17	547.48
KOSSTUTH FIRST	3,901.43	6,232.02	10,133.45
LIBERTY HILL		1,845.93	1,845.93
LOVE OAK	600.00		600.00
LOVE OAK	698.90	2,198.96	2,897.86
LOVE OAK		350.00	350.00
NORTH CORKIN	118,050.82	104,213.06	222,263.88
OSAGE	5,350.00	6,867.92	12,217.92
RIDGE CREST	8,107.07	28,162.88	36,269.95
RENO	1,138.58	1,138.58	2,277.16
ROCK CREEK	2,800.00	2,740.00	5,540.00
SOUTH CORKIN	85,536.76	38,686.62	124,223.38
TATE	6,941.96	1,617.28	12,559.24
TEJAS MINA	3,271.48	5,965.13	9,236.61
UNION	243.57	825.34	1,068.91
UNITY	192.39	150.47	342.86
WEST CORKIN	6,517.77	15,896.18	22,413.95
WHEELER GROVE	182,260.31	112,255.00	294,515.31
	682,260.31	451,225.22	1,133,485.53

ATTALA		
ASSOCIATION		2,200.00
BAR CREEK	3,121.00	811.00
BEEBA	2,716.66	5,702.25
BOWLIN	2,088.00	686.25
CRAWFORD	958.00	958.00
MASON RIDGE	851.00	1,618.00
COUNTY LINE	3,345.94	3,359.00
JOE SPRINGS	1,095.74	12,267.35
ESSEX	6,114.09	4,154.00
COFFIELD	507.00	60.00
ELKH	15,876.41	15,061.25
FIRE KOSCIUSKO	222,344.31	169,655.00
PARKVIEW		600.00
HARTSHORN CHURCH	3,000.00	976.00
HERRICK CANT.	254.53	1,466.25
BRIDGEMAN	7,691.71	7,624.50
MCADAMS	2,185.00	10,777.51
NEW HOME	11,460.50	11,441.51
NEW SALEM		900.00
NEW POND	1,262.21	1,252.21
PARKWAY	7,964.69	19,520.10
PELAGRIS REST.	1,310.38	3,095.58
PROVIDENCE		5,000.00
SALLIE	7,000.00	13,645.25
SAND HILL	1,996.34	4,498.56
SECOND KOSCIUSKO	1,609.73	6,250.42
SPRINGDALE	5,050.05	5,087.51
UNITY	7,112.00	11,125.00
WILLIAMSVILLE	47,131.53	36,180.01
YOCCAMBOORARY	6,664.64	15,704.04
ZANIA	191.80	5,245.25
TOTAL	271,367.47	271,367.47

BENTON-TIPPAH		1,553.00	1,553.00
*ASSOCIATION			10,049.31
ACADIA	4,816.82	1,783.21	10,049.31
ASHLAND	25,940.08	13,221.75	
BLUFF SPRINGS	5,418.00	4,775.00	10,135.00
CALVARY	300.00	300.00	600.00
CANAWA	10,000.00	351.74	
CHICKADEE	2,024.80	5,768.00	7,772.72
COMMUNITY	1,745.40	2,565.70	4,311.10
CONCORD	2,400.00	1,406.70	3,806.70
CRY CREEK	40,657.54	73.94	40,731.48
DUMAS	2,035.57	24,668.35	26,703.92
FAITH-BENTON	1,035.57	5,236.42	6,271.99
FAITH-TIPPAH	4,745.70	1,718.30	6,464.00
FALGOUT	2,400.00	1,173.08	3,573.08
FLY CREEK HICKORY FLAT	11,474.70	4,252.54	15,727.24
FR. RIPLEY	108,612.20	4,252.54	112,864.74
FELLOWSHIP	5,941.75	4,196.95	10,138.70
FLAT ROCK	4,179.82	6,775.36	10,955.18
HAWK CREEK	1,474.70	1,964.00	3,438.70
HARRISON	19,474.00	28,225.72	47,699.72
HERBARIUM	600.00		600.00
LOWERY MEMORIAL	13,643.31	10,352.29	23,995.60
MACDONALD DEAN T N	7,000.00	2,011.00	9,011.00
MT HERBON	7,000.00	1,185.00	8,185.00
MT MORRIS	2,242.00	4,900.00	7,142.00
MT OLIVE	10,091.00	2,657.94	12,748.94
MT VIEW	292.29	1,065.63	1,357.92
NEW HOPE		128.00	128.00
NORTH RIPLEY	1,849.14	3,183.69	5,032.83
OKLAHOMA	4,788.15	2,242.25	7,030.40
OKLAHOMA	9,270.49	2,242.25	11,512.74
PALMER	1,115.00	1,115.00	2,230.00
PINE GROVE	6,137.50	6,841.47	12,978.97
PINE GROVE HICKORY FLAT	19,318.62	15,860.44	35,179.06
PLEASANT HILL ASH O	1,972.85	3,660.65	5,633.50
PLEASANT HILL RIPLEY	1,972.85	1,312.49	3,285.34
PROVIDENCE	2,812.56	1,142.45	3,955.01
SHADY GROVE	2,419.61	207.69	2,627.30
SPRING GROVE	26,524.35	10,264.00	36,788.35
TIPPAHVILLE	2,924.62	2,022.26	4,946.88
UNITY		400.00	400.00
WALNUT	5,587.04	1,031.31	6,618.35
WEST RIPLEY	22,027.79	27,230.95	49,258.74
WHITTETOWN	1,515.75	1,515.75	3,031.50
		86,182.78	71,255.25

CAULOUN			
ANTIOCH	3,003.00	1,775.00	4,500.00
BANNER	542.44	2,564.44	12,500.10
BENTLEY		1,200.00	1,200.00
BETHANY	7,100.00	34,100.00	41,200.00
BIG BEEK	719.25	2,109.50	2,109.50
BROADFORD CHAPEL	6,621.71	14,611.71	21,000.00
BROOKVIEW	1,200.00		1,200.00
COLLEGE HILL	2,461.70	5,006.35	12,468.00
CONCORD	59.50	4,982.60	15,920.70
DEBMA	23,653.75	16,257.40	39,906.21
DEVEREAUX HILL	3,070.00	3,220.00	3,220.00
CLARK AVE FLAT	3,400.00		3,400.00
ELARD	4,439.41	10,658.25	15,095.66
ERIC DRIVE	24,204.00	34,127.21	58,331.21
THE CAULOUN CITY	57,180.00	52,073.00	109,253.00
FOX HILL ISLAND	3,211.74		3,211.74
FR. BARNARD	40,474.41	16,341.50	56,815.91
GRACE SOUTHERN BAPT	1,275.00	4,585.00	5,860.00
LANTRIP	4,368.72	2,814.10	2,814.10
MALDONIA	7,713.11	5,415.28	5,415.28
MORAN	2,571.88	2,571.88	5,585.41
Mt COMFORT	6,276.34	2,126.21	8,402.55
MT AUBURN	11,188.65	8,337.23	19,525.88
MT TABOR	300.00	700.00	1,000.00
NEW HOME	3,811.72	4,001.25	7,812.97
NEW HILL AUDIENCE	7,518.54	7,518.54	10,112.50
ONE CROWN	400.00	300.00	600.00
ORCHARD	6,636.16	12,418.04	19,254.20
PARKER	4,188.62	5,877.74	10,066.36
PARKVIEW REST	266.21	1,144.25	1,410.46
PLEASANT GROVE	25.21	111.09	120.30
PLEASANT HILL	19,296.59	20,081.15	39,377.74
PLEASANT RIDGE	2,080.15	241.08	4,430.23

	COOP PROGRAM	OTHER	TOTAL
POPLAR SPRINGS	1,027.90	1,393.48	2,421.38
ROCKY BLANCH	1,396.20	1,285.19	2,681.39
ROCKY BLANCH	1,396.20	1,285.19	2,681.39
SARACOLA	12,474.03	10,344.03	22,722.68
SHILOH	2,394.90	6,924.94	11,119.54
TURKEY CREEK	124.00	2,844.00	2,968.00
WESTSIDE	114.25	114.25	228.50
	<u>322,162.71</u>	<u>322,129.75</u>	<u>644,292.46</u>
CARROLL			
LACK HAWK	667.83		667.83
CALVARY	1,511.94	2,873.16	4,385.10
CARROLLTON	23,904.91	53,762.03	77,666.94
CENTERVILLE	557.55	180.00	737.55
C.F.A.	1,680.55	2,400.00	4,080.55
CALVARY		100.00	100.00
HICKORY GROVE	722.00		2,444.00
HILL VIEW	5,286.85	2,257.42	10,204.27
LIBERTY	6,262.77	9,254.31	15,517.08
MALMAISON	6,039.83	9,215.11	15,274.94
MCCABEY	5,966.00	2,983.00	8,949.00
MIT OLIVE	14,124.64	11,387.75	27,707.39
MIT PINEH	10,512.37	10,574.61	21,086.98
NEW RUTHER	2,480.02	6,247.33	10,035.35
NORTH CAROLTON	12,662.71	12,183.86	24,846.57
PROVIDENCE	6,007.38	8,429.07	17,456.85
SHILOH	2,571.00	2,449.00	5,020.00
WATER	40,033.19	2,449.00	92,133.00
VALLEY HILL	2,058.15	2,985.90	6,022.05
Total	<u>154,743.54</u>	<u>199,002.02</u>	<u>348,745.56</u>

CHICKASAW			
AMITY	4,106.95	3,876.01	7,982.96
ARBOR GROVE	4,110.00	6,672.55	10,782.55
BETHEL	26,546.97	799.00	26,347.97
CURNATION	1,071.15	1,071.15	2,142.30
FLYING SA	20,285.54	6,017.00	26,302.54
FRC HOLISTON	122,071.64	48,400.14	170,471.78
FRC OKOLONA	49,623.07	25,675.43	75,298.50
FRC WOODLAND	1,393.20	1,393.20	2,786.40
FLORENCE		729.00	729.00
MITOLU	1,539.59	1,695.00	3,234.59
NEW PROSPECT	280.00	400.00	680.00
PARADISE	14,187.45	20,371.00	34,558.45
PICTANESCA	6,900.00	745.00	7,645.00
PLANTATION	1,350.00	26.00	1,376.00
SCHLOCHER BRIDGE		221.03	221.03
SCHLOCHER VALLEY		12,653.10	12,653.10
SHILOH	4,207.63	865.00	5,072.63
Van Vleet			
TOTAL	260,250.23	131,198.14	391,448.37
CHOCTAW			
ACKERMAN	33,000.00	23,091.46	56,091.46
BETHLEHEM	1,308.00	951.74	2,259.74
BLUFF SPRINGS	700.00	1,300.00	2,000.00
BLUETTE CREEK	4,689.00	5,131.00	9,820.00
CHRISTIE	17,274.71	8,006.61	25,281.32
CLAYTON	1,422.00	1,422.00	2,844.00
OAKS ROADS	1,422.00	1,521.42	2,943.42
ELLISBORO	3,383.47	2,345.58	5,729.05
ENTIRESB	500.00	850.00	1,350.00
FRENCH CAMP	3,655.94	4,336.54	7,992.48
GREENWELL	2,600.00		2,600.00
LA MORIAH	5,321.35	1,900.00	7,221.35
MITCHELL	2,664.64	13,067.59	15,732.23
NEW HAVEN	4,167.24	1,260.41	5,427.65
NEW ZION	7,721.12	5,618.50	13,339.62
PROVIDENCE	7,000.00	1,200.00	8,200.00
RYKONDA	5,741.49	3,721.43	9,462.92
VALTORY	10,251.30	9,972.40	20,223.70
WEBB			
TOTAL	102,122.76	95,066.29	197,189.05

CLARE	1993	1994	1995
ASSOCIATION	803.33	1,254.12	1,659.45
ANTHONY	1,417.58	1,417.58	2,011.92
BUCATUNNA	4,408.95	3,505.00	3,011.92
CALVARY	3,481.21	2,246.35	1,729.60
CENTER RIDGE	3,000.00	869.70	468.52
CLAYTON	9,537.58	9,537.58	10,625.50
EAST PLEASANT GROVE	3,000.00	750.00	1,650.00
ELIM	4,458.00	1,688.00	6,144.00
ENTERPRISE	61,802.18	20,166.10	51,988.36
NEW MAN	2,517.58	2,517.58	1,933.33
RED STONEWALL	18,081.46	20,521.00	28,384.50
HARMONY	5,081.17	2,510.00	7,980.17
HERMON RIDGE	2,725.41	1,754.43	6,581.81
HOPE	3,441.08	2,000.00	2,000.00
KNOX'S HILL	1,258.00	1,110.00	2,068.00
MOORE ROSE	2,739.00	2,148.56	5,527.56
Mt Zion	2,403.87	750.00	10,371.00
NEW HOP CHAPEL	1,613.81	475.00	1,000.00
OAK GROVE		3,112.00	1,112.00
PACIFICA	3,091.54	1,302.31	4,393.85
PAUL	1,168.00	1,588.00	1,588.00
PEACE GROVE	6,168.00	1,260.00	7,428.00
PINE HILL	5,818.64	6,514.17	12,332.81
PINE HILL	591.50	700.00	1,000.00
PLEASANT GROVE	27,529.21	19,077.28	42,002.00
PLEASANT HILL		468.16	468.16
ROLLING CREEK	15,882.49	1,071.61	16,954.10
SHUBUTA	11,770.54	4,260.00	16,030.54
STANLEY	2,529.18	2,529.18	2,529.18
STONEROVE	15,724.60	2,529.18	61,413.42
Total	301,331.57	211,011.89	512,142.20

CORAM			
ANTIOCH	3,427.03	1,655.61	5,082.64
BIRTHE	7,799.72	10,435.29	18,235.01
COUNTY LINE	600.00	1,630.89	2,230.89
DANFORTH	1,058.52	1,058.52	2,117.04
Central Springs	137,240.35	76,425.34	213,665.69
SP. HAZLEHURST	17,500.00	27,501.02	45,001.02
GALLMAN	2,400.00	4,263.00	6,663.00
GAULVILLE	1,104.04	1,445.93	2,549.97
GRACE TOWN	8,966.23	8,966.23	17,932.47
HARBOUR	1,875.28	13,466.50	15,341.78
HIGHLAND	4,000.00	3,171.20	7,171.20
HORNWELL	1,734.00	1,734.00	3,468.00
HOWARD	1,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00
NEW PROVIDENCE	1,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00
NEW LAMAR	2,400.00	16,307.53	18,707.53
PEARL VALLEY	4,302.61	1,318.54	5,621.15
PELHAM WEST	21,675.78	11,777.77	33,453.55
POPE BROT		1,000.00	1,000.00
POPLAR SPRINGS	1,817.54	2,844.90	4,662.44
WOOD HILL	509.14	1,552.43	2,061.57
SARNO	2,491.02	5,017.35	7,508.37
SHAW OF CROWE	1,000.00	11,403.34	12,403.34
SHILOH	100.00	800.00	900.00
SPRING HILL	2,001.31	1,126.00	3,127.31
STRONG HOPE	24,385.00	13,171.49	37,556.49
SYLVARENA	10,768.00	2,218.00	12,986.00
WESSON	27,294.12	8,634.00	35,928.12
WESTSIDE		481.00	481.00
ZION HILL	12,000.00	16,098.85	28,098.85
	326,056.11	264,814.17	590,870.28

COW-BOY DAYS ASSOCIATION		
ANTIOCH	1,736.11	1,736.42
BAGSDALE	800.00	800.00
BETHANY	9,975.93	9,975.93
BETHANY	13,387.21	13,387.21
CALHOUN	2,008.47	2,008.03
CARSON	1,807.87	1,766.00
COLD SPRINGS	13,046.73	13,046.73
COLUMBIA	1,065.00	14,503.03
DENVER	4,582.06	4,491.62
DR. COLLINS	66,770.72	66,578.21
ELM CREEK	4,012.50	10,020.25
ELM CREEK	1,731.50	1,828.00
FAIRBORN	2,408.00	4,165.75
LEAF RIVER	4,000.00	11,168.00
LONG STAR	4,130.99	5,536.01
MT. HOME	4,652.57	10,750.13
NEW CANYON	2,815.49	4,408.66
OAK CREEK	2,569.00	2,721.20
OLD HERRON	2,700.00	9,231.61
ORA	1,779.91	1,727.00
PAULI	1,124.22	1,804.88
PRESSIDENT	5,113.58	39,445.53
ROCK HILL	3,391.94	7,465.15
SALEM	12,617.17	14,220.35
SEABOARD	12,617.16	15,944.45
SCE & NE	13,367.75	15,927.62
UNION HILL	1,000.00	2,000.00
UNION SOUTH	12,000.00	11,776.00
VC TOWNS	2,712.00	21,575.00
WHITELAND	4,000.00	14,112.00
WILLIAMSBURG	7,421.21	3,903.19
WILLOW GROVE	10,144.94	11,700.00

Total	355,341.92	343,717.96	699,115.88
FRANKLIN			
BUNKEY	592.00	100.00	692.00
CORCORD	3,475.00	1,114.00	4,589.00
DAMASTUS	4,575.00	2,961.00	7,536.00
EDUCATION	1,500.00	1,500.00	3,000.00
FR. B. C.	2,079.54	8,574.40	10,653.94
HAMBURG	1,160.11	1,491.00	2,651.11
HOPSWELL	1,420.11	3,000.00	4,420.11
LUCIN	1,574.11	1,155.00	2,729.11
MCCORMICK	1,574.11	1,615.00	3,189.11
MADONNE	28,426.34	13,521.24	41,947.58
MT. ZION	8,440.92	4,478.77	12,919.69
NEW HOPE	1,696.27	1,079.93	2,776.20
NEW SALLER	4,144.22	2,175.00	6,319.22
ZION	2,882.22	2,882.22	5,764.44
ALBERT VALLEY	11.85	2,812.08	2,823.93
PRINCEDENCE	7,380.66	4,004.21	11,384.87
RAMAH		846.00	846.00

	COOP PROGRAM	OTHER	TOTAL
FOREST	11,084.24	1,478.00	16,562.24
SOPHIE	1,893.25	2,930.32	9,750.05
SILVANO	8,161.49	7,910.50	16,071.99
SPRINGHILL	7,251.31	770.00	8,119.31
UNION	135,042.80	62,540.26	197,733.06
Other			
ASSOCIATION		1,500.00	1,500.00
AGRICOLA	68,653.49	51,188.83	119,842.32
BARTON	48,611.20	16,613.17	65,224.37
BEVERLY	1,452.83	1,200.00	2,652.83
BR. BENDISSE	2,585.45	2,105.34	3,041.79
BR. LUCIDIAN	13,102.26	44,301.79	107,606.05
BRITAIN	1,212.49	5,247.77	6,460.26
BULLOCK	2,540	73.00	5,500.00
MIDWAY	8,510.40	6,758.66	17,700.06
NEW BEGINNING	781.57	782.15	1,263.72
NORTSIDE		2,330.00	2,330.00
ROCKY HILL	75,212.00	50,510.30	125,722.30
SHADY GROVE	51,451.83	24,275.40	55,727.03
SOUTHSIDE	6,450.00	5,894.93	14,443.93
Total	310,996.82	216,896.83	527,573.65

GOLDEN TRIANGLE	37,531.00	113,550.00	50,881.00
ADATION	1,000.00	7,750.00	2,161.50
ANTHONY	9,803.00	5,100.00	15,200.00
ARTER	1,000.00	1,200.00	4,262.00
BETHA	19,875.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
BETHA	19,875.00	9,211.00	28,175.18
BOULEVARD SPRINGS	367.50	568.00	915.50
CALIFORNIA	10,400.00	7,686.10	24,097.10
CALVARY COLUMBUS	18,275.00	10,000.00	14,175.00
CALVARY STARKVILLE	14,082.52	10,000.00	1,000.00
CALVARY WEST POINT	1,678.40	2,014.00	1,768.52
CEDAR BLUFF	1,678.40	291.00	3,604.40
CENTER GROVE	1,551.00	3,464.00	1,551.00
COMMUNITY	10,234.00	5,725.25	1,551.00
CROSSROAD CHURCH	10,234.00	5,725.25	1,551.00
DOUBLE SPRINGS	15,551.12	15,840.55	31,391.67
EAST END	40,175.96	7,839.62	40,175.96
EMMANUEL	600.00	660.00	2,339.66
FAIRVIEW	346,234.22	111,904.66	458,138.88
FAITH STARKVILLE	16,198.00	10,402.50	7,000.00
FAITH WEST POINT	16,198.00	10,402.50	7,000.00
FARMERS	16,198.00	156,718.56	330,225.51
FR. WARE	1,520.55	2,439.00	1,520.55
FR. STARKVILLE	129,574.44	121,902.52	301,478.96
FR. WEST POINT	129,574.44	121,902.52	301,478.96
FRIENDSHIP - COLUMBUS	1,248.36	7,235.28	3,881.54
FRIENDSHIP - STURGIS	14,985.20	2,218.90	21,111.00
GRACE	4,482.15	4,482.15	6,988.00
HOBSON	1,089.30	2,664.38	6,732.47
IMMANUEL	29,233.00	3,466.00	35,479.00
KOOLA SPRINGS	11,000.00	10,658.00	23,658.00
LONGVIEW	6,218.55	6,218.55	15,944.57
MAIDEN	8,811.54	11,712.23	15,944.57
MADONNAVIEW	35,399.00	8,800.92	43,695.92
MOUNTAIN CHAPEL	31,699.20	18,184.72	50,073.92
MY VERNON	9,250.00	35,599.34	105,327.48
NEW ZEALAND	6,672.00	4,627.81	7,912.42
NEW ZEALAND CHAPEL	7,000.00	1,725.00	6,125.00
NEW COVENANT	4,268.10	1,170.00	1,170.00
NEW HOPE STARKVILLE	7,700.00	1,268.98	3,838.99
NEW LEBANON	6,029.51	2,000.00	6,029.51
NEW SALEM	41,674.42	25,169.65	86,844.27
PIERCE	4,268.10	4,268.10	4,268.10
PLEASANT HILL	5,070.00	13,656.66	66,220.66
PLEASANT RIDGE	26,385.00	2,127.46	4,511.00
PLYMOUTH	1,612.15		1,612.15
PLYMOUTH CHAPEL	7,414.66	1,801.83	8,216.49
PRINCE OF PEACE	1,212.36	1,212.36	1,212.36
SEALAND	12,176.25	2,716.91	17,993.41
STATE LINE	3,022.41	2,591.50	5,614.71
STURGIS	4,482.15	7,104.83	11,144.33
THE CROSSROADS	7,104.83	2,670.00	2,670.00
TRINITY	4,482.15	2,670.00	4,482.15
WAKE FOREST	4,482.15	2,670.00	4,482.15
WEST END	22,429.77	11,703.00	46,312.00

CHURCH	1956-57	1957-58	1958-59
ASSOCIATION		200.00	200.00
ANTIOCH	14,984.78	11,867.45	26,852.21
AMBA	148.00		1,000.00
CHURCH GROVE	21,474.73	17,784.11	41,258.82
CHURCHMAN	8,000.00	8,000.00	4,000.00
EAST SALEM	8,007.18	11,984.01	22,071.41
THE LAKEVILLE	28,044.93	17,995.07	41,040.00
THE ARLAND	11,511.37	17,930.00	29,441.37
THE SADDLE HILL	2,500.00	4,000.00	8,079.19
FELLOWSHIP	2,500.00		9,675.00
LEAF	2,500.00	4,007.50	10,257.00
NEELY	7,009.00	1,245.00	3,543.00
NEW HOPE	2,703.58	7,045.45	7,045.45
NEW LIFE	5,000.00	1,000.00	8,000.00
PAVE	5,000.00	4,618.00	9,705.00
PEAK LEVEL	1,196.02	13.99	136.01
PINEAPPLE HILL	3,113.00	4,008.00	7,231.00
UNITY	5,005.43	5,350.13	17,331.00
WEST SALEM	12,021.00	17,140.00	26,411.00
	\$132,131.33	\$72,452.92	\$166,788.74

[illegible]

HOURS			
AND OCH	1,173.60	2,006.15	1,131.00
BEACH	1,473.60	2,128.49	2,787.24
CALVARY	511.12	906.12	1,437.24
CLIFFS	4,484.65	6,987.00	11,469.85
CRUCIFIX	750.00	1,140.00	1,725.00
DR. DEBART	6,548.00	6,533.33	1,507.00
DR. LEXINGTON	4,436.20	11,429.25	2,385.40
ERIC TORJA	300.00	1,095.00	2,595.00
HORSESHOE	1,020.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
INDIAN STREET	2,668.14	11,000.78	12,000.00
MT. PILGRIM	1,068.90	2,800.00	5,068.90
MT. VERNON	454.14		854.14
ONK GROVE	570.00	995.00	1,565.00

	COOP. PROGRAM	OTHER	TOTAL
OREGON MEMORIAL	1,371.00	990.00	2,361.00
PICKENS	5,525.15	833.10	6,358.25
PLEASANT RIDGE	500.00		500.00
WEST	1,572.10	1,024.01	2,596.11
	<u>9,968.25</u>	<u>1,847.11</u>	<u>11,815.36</u>

Total	88,314.33	36,958.11	145,272.04
HUMPHREYS			
BEULAH	11,047.27	7,353.16	18,400.43
CALVARY	473.09		473.09
DANFORTH	1,174.14	2,548.62	3,722.76
DOERSEY	58,316.24	15,183.20	73,499.74
ELK BOLA	8,595.33	9,054.07	17,649.40
ELK HOUSE		502.00	502.00
GOODEN LAKE	5,495.80	2,885.00	8,380.80
SEVIER CITY		10.82	10.82
Total	80,715.25	65,318.99	146,254.24
ITAWAMBA			
AVONCH	2,876.64	1,000.00	3,876.64
BETHANY			600.00
CALVARY	4,122.09	798.00	4,920.09
DOERSEY	10,024.47	5,417.69	15,442.16
ELK BOLA	1,031.35	2,260.00	3,291.35
ELK HOUSE		956.00	956.00
FLY BURTON	39,722.53	12,892.50	52,615.03
GRUBVILLE	1,545.04	2,077.01	3,622.05
LAKEVIEW	2,818.25	2,118.75	4,937.00
MORNING VIEW	400.00	1,857.00	2,457.00
NEW HOME	4,119.91	1,579.91	5,699.82
POPULAR SPRINGS	2,001.27	1,100.00	3,101.27
PROVIDENCE		1,114.00	1,114.00
SACON	1,460.00	2,350.00	3,810.00
SELOH	727.92	1,717.04	2,444.96
TRINITY	1,300.48		1,300.48
Total	114,000.23	67,805.59	181,795.92

ARLINGTON HGTS	38,366.28	37,975.78	76,342.26
BELLE FOUNTAIN	10,200.00	11,825.54	22,025.54
CALVALE	1,200.00	25,276.81	26,476.81
CAMBRIDGE	1,479.50	1,622.20	3,101.70
EAST MOSS POINT	6,675.50	10,500.95	17,176.45
EASTLAWN	9,700.00	12,140.00	21,840.00
HAMMILL	9,840.00	11,309.36	21,149.36
SCALAPINA	18,433.35	19,742.71	38,176.06
RIC CALDER	57,449.02	60,235.46	117,684.48
RIC HELLING	16,740.00	16,847.87	33,587.87
RIC MOSS POINT	16,740.00	16,847.87	33,587.87
RIC CREEK SPRINGS	17,114.48	17,678.26	34,792.74
RIC ORANGE GROVE	1,467.24	13,731.00	15,198.24
RIC PASCAGOULA	126,094.13	109,160.43	235,254.56
RIC VANDALIA	7,537.00	78,463.44	85,999.44
FOUR MILE CREEK	6,531.00	648.95	7,180.95
FRANKLIN CREEK	9,906.49	2,822.00	12,728.49
FREEDOM CRYSTAL TSP	3,133.11	4,066.27	7,199.38
GRACE GOLF COM	3,133.11	3,669.15	6,802.26
GRACE GOLF COM	3,133.11	3,669.15	6,802.26
GRAYLAND	3,905.08	8,824.00	12,729.08
HURLEY	26,282.23	4,917.57	31,199.80
INGALLS AVENUE	14,010.85	26,163.17	40,174.02
RIC FAYE	10,624.00	9,729.00	20,353.00
JARVIS	3,802.00	6,729.00	10,531.00
LEMOYNE BLVD	23,814.00	12,875.76	36,689.76
LITTLE OCHIAIN	1,051.70	3,915.09	4,966.79
MARCH 14	2,803.25	3,803.25	6,606.50
MARTIN BLUFF	22,250.00	15,348.53	37,598.53
MCCLELLAN ROAD	4,297.68	5,280.21	9,577.89
MIDWAY	4,496.47	1,078.64	5,575.11
PARKWAY	8,271.16	16,638.16	24,909.32
PATWAY	4,255.37	13,628.86	17,884.23
PINK LAKE	10,000.00	5,715.85	15,715.85
PROVIDENCE /		1,017.08	2,017.08
RAMBLING HILLS	1,016.05	4,750.00	5,766.05
RED CREEK HIGHTS	12,762.57	19,138.24	31,900.81
RIVERSIDE	14,400.91	4,854.67	19,255.58
TEMPLE	21,802.24	7,840.63	29,642.87
WATER	4,496.47	466.90	4,963.37
WIDE	87,867.50	31,471.25	119,338.75
WOODHAVEN	5,101.50	5,195.28	10,296.78

NAME	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55
JASPER			1,394,097.81
ANTHONY	4,162.21	3,267.00	7,449.71
SAY SPRINGS	67,285.11	101,813.70	169,151.11
WILSON	1,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00
CALVARY	1,012.16	5,220.16	5,012.00
CONINTO	120.00	13.00	255.00
DECEAN	130.00	130.00	260.00
DECEAN	20,600.00	21,540.00	50,555.00
ELSON	140.00	140.00	280.00
FAIR RIDGE	1,155.00	640.00	1,795.00
LAKEWOOD	129.00	129.00	258.00
LAKEWOOD HILL	1,270.00	1,150.00	2,420.00
STILLWATER	6,725.00	1,681.00	12,431.00
WIDE RIVER	5,670.55	7,755.00	2,454.55
LAKE CONO	5,700.00	2,421.00	8,121.00
WILSON	1,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00
LOUN	1,800.92	4,152.33	8,499.49
MONROE	6,772.12	10,244.14	16,996.26
MT WERO	2,637.44	6,659.80	9,297.24
NEW SPRINGS		1,000.00	1,000.00
NEW FELLOWSHIP	5,091.10	2,807.22	7,898.32
PINE GROVE	1,454.55	3,000.00	4,454.55
STANDY GROVE FIRST	2,301.11	1,349.00	3,650.11
TRINITY	2,301.11	1,636.66	3,937.77
UNION SEMINARY	2,819.10	1,802.00	4,621.10

	Total	1952-1963	1963-1973
ASSOCIATION		9,839.72	9,839.72
BETHLE	500.00	321.00	179.00
BETHLEHEM	4,786.72	9,839.72	14,626.44
CALVA	2,755.00	482.00	1,263.00
CENTERVILLE	725.00	975.00	1,250.00
COUNTY LINE	12,750.00	9,070.71	17,820.71
CASWEN	1,438.46	1,438.46	1,438.46
MANUEL	4,200.00	1,302.00	6,352.50
ARNOLD	231.65	11,503.04	35,004.69
FAITH	186.00	914.00	1,100.00
ST. ELLIUSVILLE	115,137.00	44,630.55	159,767.55
ST. JOHN	101,137.37	84,474.67	275,649.44
ST. C. OVERT	2,548.99	409.00	1,057.99
ST. CHARON	497,670.00	8,371.43	5,701.43
ST. JOHN	12,000.00	1,262.50	2,800.00
ST. JOHN	1,662.50	1,662.50	1,332.50
ST. JOHN	40,755.24	10,002.45	50,758.99
ST. JOHN	1,231.81	176.34	4,410.11
ST. JOHN	20,447.49	1,601.75	5,835.75
ST. JOHN	1,244.64	1,244.64	1,244.64
HARMONY	491.21	882.80	174.01
HERRON	41,011.35	13,707.58	24,722.31
HERITAGE HEIGHTS	1,200.00	1,982.00	2,400.00
HERITAGE	65,672.86	9,074.68	116,647.55
HILLCREST	450.00	50.00	600.00
HOLISTON ROAD	12,807.89	5,163.10	17,070.98
HUNTER SPRINGS	40,000.00	40,000.00	131,000.00
JAWEN HAVEN	2,780.39	1,411.00	6,922.00
LOWERY CREEK	11,194.76	6,184.63	19,380.18
MAGNOLIA	20,070.00	16,645.42	30,530.50
MAGNOLIA	17,350.00	2,005.00	28,800.00
MAGNOLIA MEMORIAL	1,300.00	1,300.00	1,300.00
MAYFAIR	1,311.96	1,311.96	1,311.96
NEW HOPE	1,511.00	1,62.25	2,095.25
OAKLAND GROVE	17,721.84	5,166.00	21,707.84
PAIN CREEK	4,474.50	4,474.50	4,474.50
PEARL GROVE	1,800.00	1,088.61	2,888.61
PINE GROVE	19,040.00	6,681.01	27,721.01
PLAINWAY	6,626.25	1,755.88	11,002.23
PLEASANT HOME	14,000.00	14,000.00	14,000.00
SALEM HEIGHTS	20,200.00	1,000.00	28,981.11
SAND HILL	20,161.84	17,319.32	17,480.76
SANDERSVILLE	35,811.45	1,640.10	47,453.55
SHILOH	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
SILVERLAND	26,201.31	21,501.00	40,202.03
TRINITY	7,299.77	1,225.10	10,224.77
TRUCKERS CROSSING	2,906.62	25,209.58	281,184.00
UNITY	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
WEST ELLIUSVILLE	41,431.42	1,000.00	79,494.13
WEST LAUREL	40,775.00	2,095.61	90,864.61
Total	1,135,010.39	646,017.83	1,781,028.83

TAMPA			
RAY SPRINGS	5,226.32	4,055.94	9,282.26
BLACKWATER	1,971.00	1,465.80	3,436.80
WOLF SPRING	1,000.00	780.00	1,780.00
CENTER RIDGE	5,000.00	11,427.00	26,427.00
CORINTH	1,807.19	785.40	2,592.59
DELAKE	17,712.10	13,688.98	26,401.08
HEAVY	1,000.00	4,391.38	15,374.16
SOLE	1,844.16	850.00	2,694.16
COOMA	2,000.00	7,624.20	11,885.02
UNION	27,100.00	5,344.75	5,844.00
UNION HILL	500.00	16.00	526.00
VANDARIAN	800.00	717.12	1,401.12
WAMALAI	1,000.00	180.00	1,180.00
WEST TAMPA	1,000.00	13,800.00	16,800.00
Total	54,899.98	62,418.90	119,338.48
LAFAYETTE			
ANDERSON	52,000.00	30,735.63	82,735.63
BETH	1,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00
CALVARY	1,000.00	2,038.47	3,038.47
CLEAR CREEK	27,158.68	21,648.59	55,848.27
COLLEGE HILL HEIGHTS	16,001.39	6,720.91	24,732.30
DELA	1,310.50	2,610.00	4,310.00
DELMAR	1,000.00	2,750.00	4,350.00
FAITH	152.88	1,051.00	1,203.88
FRS ABBEVILLE	19,225.74	29,888.01	49,113.75
HRC OXFORD	246,712.80	92,636.33	339,349.13

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COLLEGE AND SEMINARY NEWS

Seven students with ties to Mississippi graduated with doctoral degrees from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary Dec. 13. Picture from left to right with NOBTS President

Chuck Kelley are: Columbus native Mike Thrower, director of missions for Beech River Baptist Association in Lexington, Tenn., who received the doctor of ministry degree; Tammy Anderson, missions consultant for the Mississippi Baptist Convention in Jackson, who received the doctor of philosophy degree; Gregory H. Massey, senior pastor of Central Baptist Church in Meridian, who received the doctor of educational ministry; Kelley; Keith Thompson, senior pastor of Moselle Memorial Baptist Church in Moselle, who received the doctor of ministry degree; Charles A. Ray III, pastor of Grace Memorial Baptist Church in Gulfport; Brian Upshaw, team leader for the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina and former an associate pastor at First Baptist Gulfport, receiving the doctor of philosophy degree; and Brian

Cleveland, instructor of religion at William Carey University in Hattiesburg, who received the doctor of philosophy degree.

Other New Orleans graduates with Mississippi ties include Darla Hollis Walker, master of arts in marriage and family counseling, Brookhaven; Aleesa Faye Harris, master of divinity degree, who also holds a bachelor of arts in Spanish from Mississippi College; Blake M. Newsom, master of divinity with specialization in evangelistic church growth degree, Grenada; David George Champagne, master of theology, Bogie Chitto; Trudy Alane Penton, Star, master of theology degree; James T. Ennis, Jr., bachelor of arts in pastoral ministry, Leavell College, and pastor at Knoxo Church, Tylertown; Jason Scott Hathorn, bachelor of arts in Christian ministry degree, Leavell College, Ellisville; Donald Izear Pouns, bachelor of arts in Christian ministry degree, Leavell College, McComb; and Jason Dayne Welch, bachelor of arts in Christian ministry and biblical studies degree, Leavell College, Hamilton.

2. Mississippi College's Beacon magazine won a certificate of special merit from District III of the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education for its Spring 2008 issue.

3. Comedian Dennis Swanberg will be the commencement speaker at Mississippi College May 9, 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. at the A.E. Wood Coliseum.

4. The Leland Speed Library at Mississippi College is displaying a China exhibit including books on Chinese New Year's paintings, volumes on Chinese tea, and examples of embroidery. The display is in the lobby of the library. Shown are Ran An, program developer at the MC International Center and Chinese instructor, and Jeff Sootheran, MC library periodicals assistant.

5. Mississippi College is hosting the second conference of the Mathematics Association of America Mar. 5-7. Mississippi math professors, their counterparts from Louisiana universities, plus 100 undergraduate students - a total of 250 participants - are expected to attend.



1. Mississippi doctoral graduates, New Orleans Seminary



4. An and Sootheran

A conference to encourage and equip the Church to actively respond in a Christ-like manner to a world impacted by

Homosexuality

Parents or spouses who have heard the words "I'm Gay" will find support, encouragement, answers and hope. Those struggling with unwanted same-sex attractions will hear the Good News that these desires can be triumphed over.

Registration & information at www.morrisonheights.org/restorationgrace or call 601-925-6427

Restoration
GRACE

February 6 & 7, 2009

Friday, February 6

Focus on training the church and counselors

Saturday, February 7

Sessions for over-comers, parents, spouses, family members, youth, friends, ministry leaders

Morrison Heights
Baptist Church

Morrison Heights Baptist Church
3000 Hampstead Blvd.
Clinton, MS 39056
601-924-5620
Dr. Greg Belser, Pastor

CLASSIFIED ADS

WOOD MEMORIAL - 4 ADJ. cemetery lots valued at \$7160, ng \$3500. Call 601-937-0152.

H AVENUE CHURCH, iesburg, is hosting Dollywood's dom Heirs in concert Jan. 30, 7:30. For tickets, call (601) 466-4343.

REN'S SIDING, JACKSON, Christian ed. All home improvements; vinyl sid- windows, metal and shingle roofs, patio ns, screen and glass rooms. 601-992-2, Don & Rita Seben, owners.

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WOMEN'S MINISTRY SPEAKER: searching for a speaker for your next women's ministry event? Corrie Clay, founder of Filling the Gap Ministries, is ready to bring a fresh perspective from God's word to your ladies. To schedule Corrie, call 205-240-8872, or visit www.fillingthegapministries.com

FBC, CHATSWORTH GEORGIA, IS seeking a full-time Minister of Music. Chatsworth is located in northwest Georgia and has an average worship attendance of 325. We have a blended service and a graded choir program. You may send your resume to Tommy Snyder, P.O. Box 1267, Chatsworth, Georgia 30705, fbccpastor@windstream.net.

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CONDO IN GATLINBURG FOR RENT: 2 bedrm, 2 bath, full kitchen, walking distance to parkway, \$70.00/night. Call for information 281-855-4469 or 832-922-0101/0141. Email pdw4760@att.net.

JUST FOR THE RECORD

1. LifeWay Glorieta Conference Center is currently searching for volunteers to help in thier ministry for April - October. Located at 7,500 feet, west of Santa Fe, N. Mex., volunteers would serve a minimum of one month in maintenance, conference support, grounds, or food service. Work at least 30 hours/week. Glorieta provides a full-hookup RV site or efficiency apartment and meals (when available). For application materials, contact Coordinator of Volunteers at (505) 757-4298 or mail to: PO Box 8, Glorieta, NM 87535 or download at www.glorieta.com.

2. In the Jan. 15 issue of The Baptist Record, a web page address was listed for downloading Joe McKeever's Winter Bible Study cartoons on Exodus. If respondents have had difficulty downloading the cartoons from the original address, a second web page from which the cartoons may be downloaded is www.joemckeeper.com.

3. Lincoln Association in Brookhaven will host their annual mini-workshop for church librarians on February 7, from 9 a.m.-2:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall of Lincoln Association. Heather Weeden, special collections librarian at the Mississippi Baptist Historical Commission, will speak on Preserving Church History. The workshop is free. There will be no lunch but refreshments will be served. For more information, contact Sarah Rutledge at (601) 833-8111.

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MISSISSIPPI
BAPTISTS

REVIVALS

Meadowview Church, Starkville: Revival, Feb. 22 - 25; Sun., 10:15 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon. - Wed., 7 p.m.; Bill Strum, speaker; Sons of the Father, music; for more information, call (662) 323-2963.

JUST FOR THE RECORD



1. Delay Road Church sign



2. Slayden Church



3. Baby dedication, Big Level Church



4. Deacon ordination, First Church, Magee

1. Delay Road Church, Water Valley, dedicated their new church sign Oct. 2008. Shown are the participants.

2. The sanctuary, preschool, and children's choirs of Slayden Church, Lamar, presented Bringing Christmas Home Dec. 13 and 14. Multiple decisions were made. Shown are some of the participants.

3. Big Level Church, Stone County, held a baby dedication service Jan. 18. Shown, from left, are Kelly and Pam Herrington with son Kyler Cash Herrington; Lisa and Matthew Dickens with daughter Cadence Marie Dickens; and Tracy and Lee Moore with daughters Kristina Leigh, Jullian Elaine, and Shelby Lynn Moore.

4. First Church, Magee, ordained Joey Ashley and Lewis Roberts as deacons Jan. 4. Shown, from left are Ashley, Roberts, and pastor Buddy Keyes.

5. The Mission Friends and Kool Kids of Montgomery Church, Summit participated in a singing Christmas tree as part of their Christmas program Dec. 21. Shown are the participants.

6. First Church, McLaurin, held a baby dedication Dec. 21. Shown, from left, are babies Chandler Mixon, Malachi Harvison, and Hunter Hennis with parents.

7. Mt. Carmel Church, Edinburg, will host The Blackwood Legacy Trio Feb. 5, 7 p.m. A love offering will be taken.

8. Poplar Springs Church, Hazlehurst, is hosting The Singing Echoes in concert Feb. 1, 10:30 a.m. For more information, call (601) 642-2002 or 259-2167.

9. The youth of First Church, Runnelstown, participated in a DiscipleNow weekend Jan. 9-11. There were three professions of faith, six repentance decisions, and four membership decisions.

10. Rehobeth Church, Rankin County, will sponsor a gospel music concert at the Livingston Performing Arts Center at Roosevelt State Park, Morton, Jan. 31, 6:30 p.m., featuring Tal Vardaman, the Blackwoods, Shelly Overby, Shanna Harrell, Kathy Walters, and Tammy Brun. Tickets, \$20. For information or group rates, call (601) 854-8953.



5. Montgomery Church, Summit



6. First Church, McLaurin

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For brochure, information, and letter from Rev. Myers call 7 days a week:

YMT Vacations 1-800-736-7300

Providing Affordable Vacations Since 1967!

BIBLE STUDY

By Bill Patterson

"You don't have a problem unless it is a problem of prayer or a problem of prayer." The late Rogers spoke those words after he had ministered to many.

Powerful and prayer is one of the needs of Christians today. But how do we pray with confidence? learning to focus our God. Confidence is not self-confidence confidence. And a teacher than one of prayer warriors of Testament—King David. Confident in God's (Psalm 86:1)

We do not know the circumstance of David. He may have wept in prayer when chasing the Philistines.

EXPLORE

Do You Get It?

By Joyce C. Rogers

Paul concludes the letter to the church in Thessalonica by giving instructions, or exhortations, and blessings. The instructions are just as applicable to our present-day church as they were in the first century. Our scripture is right in the Living Word.

Respect Leaders
Apparently Paul was a leader in the early church before he moved to other new churches that in most groups (specially religious) the those who stand out. Those who do the work are given the recognition. Pastors and other leaders should be respected. This means some "do's" and "don'ts." Do follow their lead.

The Baptist Record news and photographs that take place in the Mississippi Baptist News submitted to the Baptist Record must be in (a) neat, (b) neatly printed paper, or (c) neatly typed forms provided by the Baptist Record. News must be received by the address below. News may be submitted in the mail form. Due to the no text attachment Photograph attached

STUDIES FOR LIFE

Pray Confidently

Psalms 86:1-13

erson
n't have a single
less it is a problem
or a problem for
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and persistent
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And what better
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riors of the Old
King David?
in God's Character
alm 86:1-5)
it knew the specific
e of David's need.
have written this
en chased by the

demented Saul
(1 Samuel 19-31), when
his son Absalom staged
a coup to take over the
throne (2 Samuel 15-18), or dur-
ing war against Israel's ene-
mies. We do not know the
exact instance, but we do know
it came when some sought
David's life (v. 14). He needed
God to hear and answer him. Is
that your need today?
David based his prayer on
who he was and who God is.
He described himself as
"poor" and "needy" (v. 1). He
wasn't poor and needy in a
material sense but in a sense of
desperation. The situation
was so desperate that David
had to have God's help. Does
God fail to answer our prayers
at times because we pray
small prayers? When we get
desperate for God, we will
gain His ear.



Patterson

David also
described himself as
God's servant. In an
extensive study of bib-
lical prayer, I discov-
ered that many of the
mighty people of
prayer gave God a rea-
son to answer. David
stated he was God's
faithful servant (vs.
24). He called on God
continually (v. 3). And he set
his hope on God (v. 4). God
protects his faithful servants
when they call on him.
David based his request not
only on his character, but on
God's character. In verse five
he used three words for God's
character. God is kind. He's
not "making a list, checking it
twice; going to find out who's
naughty and nice." He desires
the best for his people.
God is also forgiving and
abundant in covenant love.
We may fail God but God
won't fail us. We are flawed,
needy, and dependant on
God; yet we can pray confi-
dently because God forgives
and is steadfast in His
covenant with us.

Confident in God's Response (Psalm 86:6-10)

David asked God to bend His
ear toward him (v. 6). David
was confident: "You will answer
me" (v. 7). God's answers to
David's past prayers gave indi-
cation He would answer in the
future. God's good work
toward you in days gone by
should help you know He will
answer you in the days to come.

David was so confident God
would answer him that he
began to praise God (vs. 8-10).
Have you ever asked God for
something only to realize that
you had begun praising Him
for His power, creation, and
wonders? David knew the God
who could make all the nations
(v. 9) could also perform won-
ders (v. 10) on David's behalf.

Confident in God's Ways (Psalm 86:11-13)

David connected his
request for deliverance with
his own willingness to learn
God's ways and live by God's
truth (v. 11). The effective-
ness of prayer is not deter-
mined by the rigor of our
pleas but by the righteous-
ness of our performance after-

wards. Holy living leads to
heavenly answers.

Why not pause right now to
ask God to give you a teachable
spirit like King David had (v.
11). Ask Him to show you any
areas of your life that dishonor
Him. Confess those and leave
them in His sea of forgetfulness
(Micah 7:19). Praise Him for
His goodness. Ask Him to
grant you an undivided mind
of respect and devotion to Him.

A humble spirit like David
had will keep us from the sin of
presumption. We can be confi-
dent that God hears us when
we pray. We should never pre-
sume that God owes us an
answer in the way we think
best. Prayer is not mechanical
like inserting a dollar into a
machine and down comes a
cola—lift a prayer and down
comes the answer. Prayer is a
relationship between God and
His loving children. We can be
confident He loves us, desires
our relationship to reflect His
nature, and will answer as He
thinks best.

Patterson is pastor of First
Church, Richland.

EXPLORE THE BIBLE

You Get Along With Others?

1 Thessalonians 5:12-28

Rogers

cludes the first let-
the church at
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stand out as leaders.
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nd other staff mem-
l be respected and
This may include
"and" don't's".
w their leadership

as appropriate. Do refer
to them in respectful
ways. Do pray for them.
Do support them finan-
cially and in other ways.
Do love them and their fami-
lies. Do promote peace in the
church family.
Don't criticize them, not in
the church nor to outsiders.
Don't expect them to do all the
work. Don't expect them to be
available 24/7.
Reach Out to One Another
Love for each other in the
church is very important. Jesus
said, "I give you a new com-
mandment: love one another.
Just as I have loved you, you
must also love one another. By
this all people will know that
you are my disciples, if you
have love for one another (John
13:34, 35 HCSB). Love for oth-
ers in the church family not
only promotes peace but is a
witness to outsiders.



Rogers

I Thessalonians
5:14a tells us "warn
those who are lazy."
If we undertake to
correct others in any
way, we must be
sure to do it kindly.
If it gives us pleasure
to correct others,
then we are not the
one to do it. Any
reproof made should
be redemptive. A believer
should guard against a vin-
dictive spirit.
The other instructions men-
tioned are positive. We are to
"comfort the discouraged, help
the weak, be patient with
everyone" (v. 14b).
We are not to repay evil for
evil. In a previous lesson we
learned that "an eye for an
eye" and "a tooth for a tooth"
is for the courts or left to the
Lord, not for individuals.
"Vengeance belongs to me; I
will repay, says the Lord"
(Romans 12:19b). The best way
to deal with evil against our
person is to counter with good.
Worship with One Another
The verb "rejoice" appears
in the Bible over 200 times. Joy

is the fruit of a right relation
with God. Happiness depends
on circumstances, but joy in the
Lord can be found even during
difficulties or persecution.

We are to remain in a spirit
of prayer constantly. We can be
thankful, praise God and make
petitions as we go about our
daily tasks. Some have called
this "popcorn" praying!

In verses 16-22 we have
another list of "do's" and
"don'ts". We are to "rejoice
always, pray constantly, give
thanks in everything, test all
things, hold on to what is
good and stay away from
every form of evil."

The "don'ts" are important
also. "Don't stifle the Spirit"
and "don't despise the
prophecies." The Holy Spirit
influences our hearts. The
Holy Spirit can be compared
to fire. It burns when it is
tended and fed. It goes out
with neglect, or lies dormant
until stirred again.

Prophecies refer to preach-
ing. While preaching may
not seem as dramatic or excit-
ing as speaking in tongues or
working miracles, it is God's

method of making the gospel
known. When we observe
Paul's exhortations, our lives
are strengthened as well as
our churches.

Pray for One another

The last verses of chapter
five conclude the letter. Paul
challenges the Thessalonians
to holy living. Paul prayed that
the God of peace would set the
readers apart for divine ser-
vice. We do not sin in body or
spirit without affecting the
whole person. "Do you not
know that your body is a
sanctuary of the Holy Spirit
who is in you, whom you
have from God?...therefore
glorify God in your body"
(1 Cor. 6:19, 20 HCSB).

God does not call us to do
anything that He does not
enable us to do. But Paul
knows he needs the prayers
of the people. He asks for
prayer and asks that his letter
be read to all the brothers.
His benediction is "May the
grace of our Lord Jesus Christ
be with you."

Rogers is a member of Main
Street Church, Hattiesburg.

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ay be submitted electronically
ress below, and must be con-
e message segment of an e-
Due to increasing virus threats,
attachments will be accepted.
n attachments are permissible.

Baptist Record

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